### U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

## FEDERAL BUREAU

of

## INVESTIGATION

Screened by NARA (RD-F) Date: 08-29-2017 FOIA

case # 53982 DOCID:

32973914

# USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

# Transfer-Call 421

100/365094

RECORDED - 28

SAC, Philadelphia

October 10, 1949

Director, FBI

Fred Ralph Miller; Security Matter - C

REGISTERED MAIL

Reference is made to your letter dated October 3, 1949, transmitting two film packs pertaining to the above-captioned matter.

In accordance with your request, the film has been developed and it is being forwarded to your office herewith.

Epolosure

Mr. Pennington Mr. Quinn Tamm Tele. Room RCR:RD

COMMUNICATIONS SCHOOL

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MARCE

# Office Memorandum . United states government.

Director, FBI

11918

10/3/49

FROM

SAC, Philadelphia

Attention: FBI Laboratory Mechanical Section

SUBJECT:

FRED RALPH MILLER; SECURITY MATTER -

It is requested that the enclosed packages of Minox film be developed only. These two packages of film are intended for identification purposes only. No prints are desired.

HFG:MO 100-34801 Enclosure

365094

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1 This case originated ATPHILADELPHIA

FILE NO. 100-34801 - cmm

	REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
,	PHILADELPHIA	OCT 211949	9/12,16,19-21/49	HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE
	TITLE (			CHARACTER OF CASE
	FRED RALPH MILLER			SECURITY MATTER - C
	· ·		4	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

FRED RALPH MILLER, born January 28, 1905, or January 29, 1907, Detroit, Michigan. Served with the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE during the Spanish Civil War. Issued Passport Number 376455 March 19, 1937. Assigned Seaman's Certificate of Identification Number Z-129501 as member of US Merchant Marine.

\_ - -

REPRENCE:

New York letter to Bureau, May 7, 1948, captioned "Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade-Internal Security-C."
Bureau file 100-7060.

DETAILS:

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Reference letter indicates that FRED RALPH MILIER, 211 Valuat Street, Philadelphia and Bay City, Michigan, served with the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE during the Spanish Civil Mar and was issued passport number 376455 on March 19, 1937, by the Passport Division, Department of State.

Mr. JAMES McINROY, Assistant to the Superintendent, Seamans Church Institute, 211 Walnut Street advised he is not acquainted with FRED RALPH MILLER, but made available room registration cards containing the following information:

OF THE PARTY OF TH

MILLER was lodged in the Seamans Church Institute May 15, 1939; November 6,8,9, 1939; April 24, 1940; August 1, 1941; July 31, 1943, and July 16, 1945. He furnished as identification: Able Seaman's Certificate Number 207255 and Life Boatman's Certificate 257703. MILLER has been indebted to the Institute in the amount of \$3.40 since approximately 1935, and Mr. McINROY says he knows of no way of locating MILLER or anyone who may

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APPROVED AND DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	\
GOPIES DESTROYED 9N 100 + 365094- St	COPDED - 55
COPIES OF THIS REPORT	DEXED - 55
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2-New Haven	<u></u>
2-Detroit	, 10h.
2-New York	O,
2-Washington Field -	*

#### PH 100-34801

The records of FRED RALPH MILLER maintained by the Captain of the Port, 3rd Coast Guard District, Custom House Philadelphia, were reviewed through the courtesy of Mr. T.S. NUTT, Civil Engineer and the following information was obtained:

Name:

Address:

FRED RALPH MILLER . .

134 Broad Street, New York City, N.Y.

(June, 1939)

C/O R. PERSOFF, Westwood Road, Mt. Carmel.

Conn., May, 1939.

1019 North Jackson Street, Bay City,

Michigan, July, 1939.

Occupation:

Merchant Seaman

Seamans Certificate of

Identification:

Z-129501

Serial Number:

207238, Issued August 1, 1934, Seattle,

Washington.

Able Seaman Certificate: 207255, Issued August 14, 1934.

Lifeboatman Certificate: 250647 issued July 31, 1934, aboard US

Coast Guard Cutter, SNOHOMISH, Seattle. Washington. (Duplicate issued Seattle, Washington, September 4, 1934, #257703.

January 28, 1905, Detroit, Michigan

January 29, 1907.

On May 16, 1939, FRED RALPH MILLER appeared in person at the US Custom House, Philadelphia, and applied for Able Seaman and Lifeboatman Certificates stating he had been captured while fighting in the Spainsh Civil Var and his certificates were taken from him. He furnished the following descriptive data:

Birth:

Birth:

January 29, 1907, Detroit, Michigan

Sex:

Male

Color:

Next of Kin:

Whi to 1

Permanent address of

RALPH POWELL, Bay City, Michigan

Soaman:

134 Broad Street, New York City, NY. 51611

Height:

Blue

Eyes:

Hair:

Brown

Complexion:

Fair

PH 100-34801

MILLER'S fingerprints were taken by the Coast Guard and a photograph appears on his record.

#### EVIDENCE OF ACTIVITIES OR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CP, USA

No information has been developed which indicates that FRED RALPH NITLER has been a member of the Communist Party or has taken part in Communist Party activities in this district.

- PENDING-

PH 100-34801

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

In view of the fact that FRED RALPH MILLER is a seaman it was not deemed advisable to set out additional leads to offices where he has been known to reside for short periods only, and in the absence of information indicating the necessity of such action leads of this type will not be set out.

Ph 100-34801

#### LEADS

#### THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

#### AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Will check the records of the Passport Division, Department of State, and US Coast Guard, Merchant Vessel Record Unit, 1300 East Street, Northwest, Vashington, D.C., for information pertaining to the subject as regards current residence, employment activity, background, passport application and evidence of service in the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE.

#### THE DETROIT OFFICE

#### AT BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

Will ascertain if the subject is currently residing Bay City, Michigan and report any Communist activity as established through confidential informants and other sources. Will identify RALPH PO TELL, listed as MILLER'S next of kin. in May 1939.

#### THE NEW YORK OFFICE

#### AT NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

Will ascertain if the subject is residing 134 Broad Street, New York City, and report any evidence of Communist Party activities.

#### THE NEW HAVEN OFFICE

#### AT MT. CARMEL. CONN.

Will report any information available concerning R. PRESOFF, Westwood Road, Mt. Carmel, Connecticut, and FRED RALPH MILLER indicative of Communist Party activities.

#### THE PHILADELPHIA OFFICE

#### AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Will obtain a copy of subject's photograph from the records of the US Coast Guard, Custom House, Philadelphia.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 378-2

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO.

100-21480

REPORT MADE AT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

12-5-49

11-8,29,30,'49

DAVID R. LAWRIE, SA, BRA

CHARACTER OF CASE

FRED RALPH MILLER

SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Passport records indicate subject was born January 28, 1905 at Detroit, Michigan and served with Loyalist Army during Civil War in Spain. Subject's address as of October 4, 1949 is shown as 134 Broad St., New York, N. Y. Background data set out. Merchant Seaman records reflect subject's birth as January 29, 1907 at Detroit, Michigan. Subject was last discharged at Houston, Texas on July 23, 1949 and is indicated as not being presently at sea. Records show home address in 1939 as 134 Broad Street, New York City and in 1940 as 105 Broad Street, New York City. RALPH POWELL of Bay City, Michigan, subject's uncle, is listed as next of kin.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of SA HERBERT F. GREATHOUSE dated October 21, 1949 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Bureau File No. 190-7960.

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The files of the Passport Division, Department of State, reflect that passport No. 376455 was issued on March 19, 1937 to FRED RAIPH MILLER for travel to France for visiting purposes. The subject stated in his passport

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

OPERATOR OF THIS REPORT

OP

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U. S. GOVERNMENT FRINTING OFFICE 7-20

application that he was born at Detroit, Michigan on January 28, 1905; that his permanent residence was at 211 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; that his occupation was that of a Seaman. The subject advised that he desired that his passport be mailed in care of FREEDMAN, GOLDSTEIN and PECHNER, 1501 Franklin Trust Building, 15th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In connection with the above application it is noted that one JOSEPH P. OJAROMSKI (last name illegible) of 230 Delancey Street, Philadelphia, Fennsylvania executed an affidavit on February 23, 1937 wherein he stated that he had known the subject for three years and that he knew him to be an American citizen.

These records disclose a letter from the Department of Health, City of Detroit, dated March 16, 1937, wherein it is stated that a search of the files of this Department failed to reveal a record of birth for one FRED R. MILLER.

Passport records contain an affidavit executed by the subject on February 23, 1937 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania wherein he stated that in order to join the Navy on September 5, 1923, in lieu of a birth certificate, his mother was required to make affidavits as to the place and time of his birth. He explained that these affidavits were made in the presence of a County Recorder of Deeds at Bay City, Michigan on or about the first of September 1923. He stated that these affidavits were turned over to the Bureau of Navigation upon his enlistment in the Navy. He stated that inasmuch as he had no living relatives with whom he could get in touch with, he respectfully submitted this affidavit as proof of American citizenship.

These records contain an affidavit executed by the subject's aunt, Mrs. NEILIE VEICH, 109 N. Walney Street, Bay City, Michigan on March 4, 1937, wherein she stated that FRED B. MILLER was born on January 28, 1905 at Detroit, Michigan and that such knowledge is based on the fact that the subject is her deceased sister's son and that during her sister's confinement she (MRS. WELCH) helped take care of the subject.

A despatch was received from Seville, Spain on November 18, 1938 which indicated that the subject was included on a list of Americans held in a concentration camp at San Pedro de Cardenas (Burgos) on November 12, 1938.

It is noted that the subject registered as an American citizen at Havre, France on April 27, 1939 at which time he advised that he had resided in Spain from March 27, 1937 to April 22, 1939 and in France from April 22, 1939 to "date". At this time he furnished the following references:

ELEANORD BOWEN, 1307 North Monroe Street, Bay City, Michigan; RALPH FOWELL, RFD Midland Road, Bay City, Michigan.

The subject was issued a Certificate of Identity and Registration No. 32 at Havre, France, on April 27, 1939 for immediate return to the United States only.

A memorandum was placed in the subject's passport file on: February 26, 1940 which stated that the subject had served in the Loyalist Army during the Civil War in Spain from 1936 to 1938.

Passport records reflect that the subject recently wrote to the Passport Division from 134 Broad Street, New York, New York, letter undated, requesting to be furnished with proof of his American citizenship inasmuch as it had become necessary for him to produce proof of his citizenship to the U. S. Coast Guard for the reissuance of "Seaman's Papers".

On October 4, 1949 the Passport Division wrote to the subject at 134 Broad Street, New York, New York and advised that in connection with the application upon which a passport was issued to him on March 19, 1937 the subject submitted an affidavit, executed by his aunt, Mrs. NELLIE WEICH, certifying that he was born at Detroit, Michigan on January 28, 1905.

The following description of the subject appears on his Certificate of Identity and Registration dated April 27, 1939 at Havre, France: Height, 5' 6", Hair, dark blond; Eyes, grey; occupation, seaman; marks, none.

The files of the Passport Division disclose no further pertinent information concerning the subject.

U. S. Merchant Seaman records, maintained by U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C., reflect that FRED RALPH MILLER who was issued Seaman's Certificate of Identification No. Z-129501 on May 15, 1939 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has a record of 17 voyages. This individual was last discharged on July 23, 1949 at Houston, Texas and the comment appears in these files that he is not presently at sea. The subject's birth is reflected as January 29, 1907 at Detroit, Michigan. In May 1939 and July 1939 the subject listed his home address as 134 Broad Street, New York, New York. In September 1940 subject listed his home address as 105 Broad Street, New York, New York, Previous home address listed in 1934 is shown as 1019 North Jackson Street, Bay City, Michigan. Subject listed his uncle, RALPH OWELL, Bay City, Michigan, as next of kin. These records contain the following description of the subject:

Height, 5' 6"; Eyes, blue; Hair, brown; Complexion, fair.

U. S. Merchant Seaman records reflect no additional information concerning the subject.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

#### ADMINISTRATIVE -SHEET

Copies of this report are being designated for the New York and Detroit Offices for their assistance in covering leads set forth in referenced report.

Any leads suggested by the information contained in this report are being left to the discretion of the office of origin.

Special Employee HOWARD P. SELLERS checked the U. S. Merchant Seaman records.

8/1/3

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

			NY FILE NO. 100-96818 EMM			
REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DEC 5 1949	PERIOD FOR 11/14 WHICH MADE 21,29/49	REPORT MADE BY  EDWARD U. CRIM			
	. ]		CHARACTER OF CASE			
FRED RALPH MIL	LER	-	SECURITY MATTER - C			
YNOPSIS OF FACTS:	Workers of the text and stated Michigan and le Street, Wilkes at 25 South Str to ship. Subje	World. Subject he was born 1/ gal address is Barre, Pennsylv eet, NYC, while ct reported by	address of International interviewed under pre- 28/07 at Detroit, 418 South Sherman ania. Subject resides awaiting assignment Confidential Informant in			
	1943 as being o credit rating N		and very active. No			
		RUC -				
		2200				
REFERENCE:	Report of SA HE Philadelphia, 1		OUSE,			
DETAILS:	Inquiry on November 14, 1949, at 134 Broad Street,  New York City, reflected this to be the address of the International Workers of the World.					
* " *	Investilai		***			
te-Coask Guard	Mr. BOB WILLOCK no persons resi seamen shipping purposes. He s	de on the premi from New York tated that he k	the organization, advised that sees but that a number of use that address for mail mows a FRED MILLER but that than three weeks.			
e-Constituend	Mr. BOB WILLOCK no persons resi seamen shipping purposes. He s he had not seen WILLOCK stated he is acquainte	de on the premi from New York tated that he k him for more t that according d with is a mer	ses but that a number of use that address for mail mows a FRED MILLER but that			
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APPROVED AND COPIES OF THE 3-Philadelphia (3-New York COP)	Mr. BOB WILLOCK no persons resi seamen shipping purposes. He s he had not seen WILLOCK stated he is acquainte address is 418	de on the premi from New York tated that he k him for more t that according d with is a mer South Sherman S	ses but that a number of use that address for mail mows a FRED MILLER but that than three weeks.  to his records the MILLER chant seaman whose legal street, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvan			

Mr. MILLER contacted the New York Office on November 21, 1949, and upon being interviewed under suitable pretext, advised that his full name is FRED RALPH MILLER. He stated he was born January 28, 1907, at Detroit, Michigan and that his legal address is 418 South Sherman Street, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania. He stated he is a merchant seaman by occupation and that although his residence is in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, he uses the 134 Broad Street, New York City, address to receive mail, as he spends the majority of his time in New York awaiting assignment to a ship. While in New York, he stated that he resides at the Seamen's Church Institute of New York, 25 South Street.

During the interview, Mr. MILLER stated he had served for a time with the Loyalist Army in Spain and furnished the following information concerning himself:

Name:
Birthdate:
Birthplace:
Address:

Relatives:

Occupation:

Height:

Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Build:
Complexion:
Scars:

Additional information:

FRED RALPH MILLER
January 28, 1907 "
Detroit, Michigan

418 South Sherman Street Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania Wife, WANDA

Children, ALBERTA, BARBARA, ANN,

Able Seaman
Identification #Z129501

5'6" 135-140 pounds

Blue Black Stocky Ruddy

Right hand deformity

as result of having been broken while serving with the Loyalist

Army in Spain.

Served 8-year hitch in Navy

from 1923-1931

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised on August 17, 1943, that FRED ROMILLER, able seaman, born in Michigan, 2#129501, has a sister, M. A. MILLER, in Bay City, Michigan; had served with the Loyalist Army in Spain; was an old member of the Communist Party and very active and that he had made his last voyage on the S. S. ALGIC.

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, who is conversant with Communistic activity of the water front section in New York, advised on December 1, 1949, that the subject is unknown to him.

Confidential Informants T-3, T-4, T-5, T-6, T-7 and T-8, all of known reliability, advised that the subject is unknown to them.

Confidential Informant T-9, of known reliability, advised that FRED R. MILLER of Bay City, Michigan, fought with the Loyalist Army in Spain and that he is mentioned in the July, 1938 issue of the "New York Times," in an article on "North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy."

Confidential Informant T-9 further advised that FRED MILLER of Bay City, Michigan is mentioned in the May, 1939 issue of the "Daily Worker" as returning from Franco's camp on the Ilede France.

No record on the subject was located at the Credit Bureau of Greater New York.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

#### ADMINISTRATIVE\_

Special Employee RALPH MURDY checked the records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York.

Special Agent AUGUST J. MICEK checked the records of Special Squad 1, New York City Police Department.

				CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS		
EDWARD	U e.	CRI	Confidential M, dated		mentio	ned in the report of SA at New York, are as follows:
			Confidential	Informant	T-1:	A letter dated August 17, 1943, from the Armed Service Forces Headquarters to the New York Office, which furnished a list of seamen with suspicious
						affiliations.
			Confidential	Informant	T-2:	contacted by SA FRANK J. NOWLAN
			Confidential	Informant	T-3:	
			Confidential	Informant	T-4:	
			Confidential	Informant	T-5:	
						All three aforementioned informants were contacted by SA CHARLES F. HEINER.
			Confidential	Informant	T-6:	BUCKLEY.
			Confidential	Informant	T-7:	w. BUCKLEY.
			Confidential	Informant	T≕8:	W. BUCKLEY.

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#### CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS (Continued)

Confidential Informant T-9-is the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation of the New York City Police Department.

DARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum · United States Government

TO:

Director: FBI

DATE: December 19, 1949

FROM SAC, Detroit

11917

SÚBJECT:

FRED RALPH MILLER SECURITY MATTER - C (100=7060)

Rerep SA HERBERT F. GRATEHOUSE, Philadelphia, 10/21/49, and rerep SA DAVID R. LAWRIE, Washington, D. C., 12/5/49.

The records of the Merchants Credit Bureau, Bay City, Michigan, fail to disclose any information regarding a FRED RALPH MILLER. These records do show that a RALPH POWELL lived at 821 - 22nd Street, Bay City, in 1943 and was formerly employed by the Michigan Pipe Company of Bay City. He left Bay City and was employed some place in Detroit, but his exact employment and residence were unknown.

Mrs. MAX F. DEHART, 1019 North Jackson Street, Bay City, advised she has lived there since 1945, but never heard of Subject.

Mrs. RONSON, 1017 North Jackson has lived there 20 years, but never heard of Subject.

There is no record of Subject or POWELL at the Bay City Police Department.

It may be noted that referenced report from Philadelphia requests that inquiry be made at Bay City in an effort to locate Subject who gave 1019 North Jackson as his address in 1939 and listed RALPH POWELL as his next of kin. POWELL reportedly lived at Bay City.

Referenced report from Washington Field points out that RALPH POWELL is an uncle of the Subject and as of October 4, 1949 the Subject's address was 134 Broad Street, New York, New York.

Inasmuch as the information requested by the Philadelphia Office has been furnished in referenced report of the Washington Field Office, no further investigation is being conducted by the Detroit Office, unless advised to the contrary, and the case is being considered RUC.

LLW: MEB 100-18034

cc: Philadelphia (100-34801)

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#### Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DIRECTOR. FBI.

DATE: March 7, 1950

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

FRED RALPH WILLER

SECURITY MATTER - C

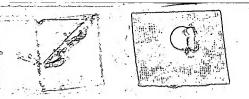
A review of the file in this case reflects that all outstanding leads have been covered and the subject's family presently resides at 419 South Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. MILLER is presently employed as a seaman aboard the SS W.H. Peabody, Weyerhauser Stevedoring Company, Marshfield, Oregon.

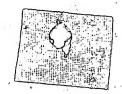
Informants in Philadelphia, New York City and Detroit report no recent Communist Party activities on the part of the subject. This case is therefore being marked "closed."

HFG/jgb 100-34801

1100-3450111-6

60 MAR 201956





To:

SAC Philadelphia

Date: December 2, 1950

From:

Director, FBI

Subject:

FRED RALPH MILLER

(Philadelphia File 100-34801)

Security Matter-C

In connection with the Coast Guard's screening of suspected subversives, that Agency has submitted the name of the captioned individual to be checked through the Bureau indices for any subversive derogatory information which would be of assistance to them in determining whether he should be excluded from employment on U.S. merchant vessels or at port facilities.

- No Security investigation has been conducted on this individual. Attached, however, is a copy of a memorandum submitted to the Coast Guard by the Bureau containing information in the Bureau's files suitable for dissemination.
- 2. X A Security investigation has been conducted on captioned individual. The office of origin should transmit copies of all investigative reports or any other pertinent information not already furnished to the office to which this memorandum is directed.
  - a. Topies of pertinent reports have been submitted to the Coast Guard.
  - b. Attached is a copy of a memorandum submitted to the Coast Guard by the Bureau containing information suitable for dissemination.

Information relating to this subject should be handled in accordance with current instructions regarding Security investigations of individuals and standards for inclusion in the Security Index. If an investigation is warranted, copies of investigative reports should be furnished to the U.S. Coast Guard, ONI and other interested agencies.

CC: Internal Security Section

Bu File 100-365094

